

start fires, cause explosions, or injure workers who breathe their fumes or handle them. Fortunately, most Kansas communities have special day-long collection events or drop-off facilities for disposing of unneeded HHW. Then, if the material is still good, it can be reused by someone else (see "Swap & Shop" below). Non-usable HHW is taken to special facilities that are designed to safely recycle or dispose of the waste.

One of these HHW drop-off facilities is located in Sedgwick County and serves residents of Wichita and surrounding areas. This new HHW site is located at 801 Stillwell and operated by county employees. All residents of Wichita and Sedgwick County can drop off their HHW year-round on Tuesday through Saturday during designated hours. Other HHW sites are located in communities around the State. Your parents can call your city or county trash department for information on how to dispose of HHW.

## Clean up and clean out safely

A lot of everyday household chores result in unsafe leftovers. And, no, we don't mean the "science projects" growing in the refrigerator. Cleaning, gardening, and car care can leave behind unused chemicals. When these chemicals are no longer needed, we refer to them as "household hazardous waste," or HHW for short.

Leftover HHW includes items such as household cleaners, used motor oil, old antifreeze, photo chemicals, craft glue, weed and bug killers, spray cans, and paint. Unfortunately, these items are often stored for years in basements and garages or under kitchen and bathroom sinks. The longer products are stored, the less likely they are to be used and the more likely they are to spill or leak.

HHW can cause problems if thrown in the trash. Such chemicals can



### clip & save

#### Attention, Wichita and Sedgwick County residents!

The HHW site, which is at 801 Stillwell in Wichita (six blocks south of Kellogg and two blocks east of Seneca), is open during these hours:

- Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, have a parent call the Sedgwick County HHW site at (316) 660-7464.

Many local HHW programs, including Sedgwick County's, have "swap & shop" areas. Sometimes people bring cleaners, paints, lawn chemicals, and other products that can still be used to HHW facilities. At swap & shop areas, usable chemicals that are in original, labeled containers can be picked up—usually at no charge. Check at the HHW facility near you—your family might be able to pick up free cleaning, gardening, hobby, or automotive products!

### swap & shop



# RECYCLING RAG

Unscramble the words to learn how to recycle more.

You keep your recycling bin in the kitchen?

Please put these cans with the other recyclables.

No, not my bin. I keep a special recycling bin next to my trash can. Then it is always quick and easy to recycle.

## TRAGEDY & COMEDY

If the stories of products were told, some would be tragedies with sad endings and some would be comedies with happy endings. Read these endings and circle the correct mask to identify each story as a tragedy or comedy.

Tragedy

Comedy

And from then on, the boy recycled all of his grass clippings with his new mulching mower.		
As the aluminum can was crushed into the landfill, it cried. Never again would it offer a cool, refreshing drink to a thirsty human.		
Thrown carelessly onto the sidewalk, the newspaper was caught by the wind and carried toward the street as rain began to fall.		
Her litter bag full, the girl left the park. The sky was bright, the park gleamed, and the girl smiled.		
Now all the students knew that even the bus was recycled—made from food cans and old cars that were melted to make new steel.		

# Times for the Earth

What year did Americans celebrate the first Earth Day?

$$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 21 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

The only numeral that is in both answers is \_\_\_\_\_.

Write this numeral below in the ones place of the year.

$$\begin{array}{r} 15 \\ \times 22 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

The only numeral that is in both answers is \_\_\_\_\_.

Write this numeral in the thousands place of the year.

$$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 70 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

The only numeral that is in both answers is \_\_\_\_\_.

Write this numeral in the tens place of the year.

$$\begin{array}{r} 31 \\ \times 27 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

The only numeral that is in both answers is \_\_\_\_\_.

Write this numeral in the hundreds place of the year.

The year was \_\_\_\_\_

## BE PART SMART

Look carefully at each part of an item shown below. Based on what you see, identify the item.  
Hint: All of these items are recyclable.


# LITTER

JEOPARDY!

**Read:**

Rolly the Raccoon was walking one day near the edge of a highway. His son followed behind, happily juggling rusty cans. Rolly smiled, thinking of the pine cones that he had juggled in the woods as a youngster.

Rolly sniffed something that smelled good to eat. His nose led him toward the road. He was a little scared of the highway, but the food smelled so good. He checked on Ricky and then headed carefully toward the road. As he reached for an apple core, a car whizzed by. Rolly felt his fur fly, and he rushed away from the apple core and the highway. Rolly sighed in relief.

Then, suddenly, Rolly heard a sharp yelp. He spun around. Ricky had stopped and was holding one paw in the other. Ricky was crying. Rolly quickly returned to his son. He saw the gash in Ricky's hand.

Rolly bandaged Ricky's cut hand as best he could, and they started to walk home slowly. Rolly shook his head—wishing that little raccoons still played with pine cones instead of the trash thrown out by careless humans.

**Respond:**

We've written the answers. Can you write the questions?  
Remember to use correct punctuation.

- He almost gets hit by a car.
- He gets cut on the rusty can.
- Aluminum cans and steel (tin) food cans
- Paper, boxes, plastic bags, drink bottles, fast food bags, food waste, old furniture, and tires
- Like humans, animals are curious. They might be attracted to litter by how it looks or smells. When they approach the items, they might get caught and not be able to get away. Or, they might be cut. Sometimes animals mistake plastic items for food.
- Animals can eat food that is spoiled and get sick. Animals can look for food on the road and get hit.
- Recyclable items should be placed into recycling containers. Some food waste can be composted in a worm bin or a backyard compost bin. Other food waste, such as meat and dairy products, should be placed in the trash. Trash should be put in trash cans or litter barrels.

**Construct:**

Now create a poster featuring your favorite type of animal (dog, cat, horse, raccoon, bird, etc.). Decorate the poster with items that might be littered and hurt these animals. Be sure to show what people should do instead of littering.



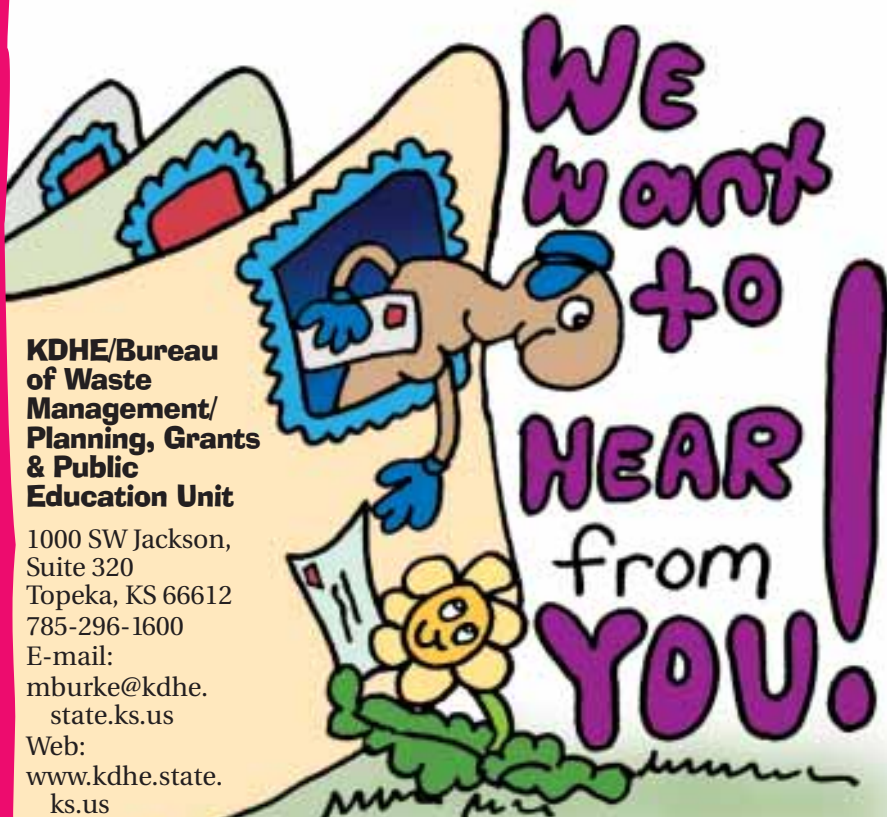
## Enter the 2004 Calendar Contest now!



Show us you care about keeping Kansas clean—and show others how to care, too. Put your artistic efforts to good use and help promote recycling, composting, and keeping litter in its place in the “Kansas: Don’t Spoil It” 2004 Calendar Contest.

The calendar will feature art from K-12 students from across the state. The grand-prize winner’s art will be featured on the cover. Twelve other winners will be selected, one to be featured each month. Winners will also receive prizes!

To enter, create a drawing or painting about how we can keep Kansas clean by recycling, composting, or disposing of household hazardous waste properly (see Page 1). Topics may include purchasing new products made from recyclables, cleaning up



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litter, or any other activity that will help keep our state clean and beautiful. You can use markers, paints, crayons, or colored pencils. Please do not send pen and ink drawings. Submit artwork on 8½-by-11 inch, unlined white paper. Do not fold your entry—mail it FLAT. On the back of your entry, include your name, grade, school name, and school address. (Do not put your name on the front of your art, please!)

Entries must be postmarked no later than March 28, 2003. Mail entries to:

“Kansas: Don’t Spoil It” Calendar Contest  
KDHE-BWM  
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 320  
Topeka, KS 66612-1366

## Don’t forget the Great American Cleanup!

In the last issue of *Trash Talk!*, you read about a program to help make our towns and cities nicer places to live by picking up litter, painting over graffiti, and planting trees and flowers in public areas. Keep America Beautiful/Keep Kansas Beautiful groups in Dodge City, Topeka/Shawnee County, and Kansas City, Kansas will be taking part in this year’s Great American Cleanup, which begins March 1 and continues through May 31.

Even if you don’t live in one of these communities, you can still get in on the Great American Cleanup. Need ideas? Visit the Keep Kansas Beautiful website at [www.keepkansasbeautiful.com](http://www.keepkansasbeautiful.com) or call (785) 273-6808.

We’d love to see pictures of your project. Mail them to KDHE at this address:

Great American Cleanup  
KDHE/Bureau of Waste Management/Planning and Outreach Unit  
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 320  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Or, e-mail them to [mburke@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:mburke@kdhe.state.ks.us).



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